

**RESOLUTION NO. 01-2007-01**

**CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR MICHIGAN STATE PARKS**

**RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND AMENDING THE  
STATE PARKS AND RECREATION AREA CAMPING FEES**

**ADOPTED JANUARY 31, 2007**

**WHEREAS**, in 2005 the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks submitted a recommendation to the Natural Resources Commission and the Department of Natural Resources Director proposing an increase in camping and reservation fees for the Michigan State Parks system; and

**WHEREAS**, the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks' proposal was approved by the Natural Resources Commission at its August 2005 meeting, and subsequently approved by the Department of Natural Resources Director at the September 2005 Natural Resources Commission meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, the approved package of state park camping fee increases took effect in 2006, and those increases have been critical in funding the operation of the Michigan State Park system in 2006 and beyond; and

**WHEREAS**, the "registration fee" of \$5 is applied once during a camper's or camping party's stay when they arrive without a prior reservation; and

**WHEREAS**, the "registration fee" has been the source of one-quarter of all the complaints received on comment cards in 2006 by the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks, and the majority of the complaints dealing with a specific fee; and

**WHEREAS**, the "registration fee" accounts for no more than 0.7% (a maximum of \$162 thousand) of the total revenue generated from camping fees in 2006.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks recommends that, effective in 2007, this "registration fee" be rescinded; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks recommends that, effective in 2008, the state park campgrounds that did not increase their nightly camping fee in 2006 raise their nightly camping fee by \$2.00; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that these two amendments to the Michigan State Parks system's fees will respond to the majority of fee complaints from campers in state campgrounds, will be revenue positive by providing an estimated net return in excess of \$700 thousand annually, and will reflect increases in the cost of operation and repairs at sites with no nightly camping fee increases since 2004; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks recommends that the Natural Resources Commission and the Department of Natural Resources Director approve these two amendments to the Michigan State Parks system's fee schedule.

**MOTIONED BY:** Chuck Nelson  
**SUPPORTED BY:** Todd Scott

**YEAS:** 13  
**NAYS:** 0  
**ABSENT:** 4

**This Resolution was unanimously adopted by the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks on January 31, 2007.**